

What is Claimed Is:

1 *Sub B'* 1. A wireless information signal transfer and interactive television system
2 comprises:
3 at least a first communication unit, operatively coupled to a television set, for
4 generating at least one information signal and for generating at least one display signal for
5 display on the television set;
6 a wireless signal transfer network, operatively coupled to the at least a first
7 communication unit, for wirelessly transferring signals including the at least one information
8 signal;
9 at least a second communication unit, operatively coupled to the wireless
10 transfer network, for receiving the at least one information signal; and
11 a server, operatively coupled to the at least a second communication unit, for
12 processing the at least one information signal and providing data included in the information
13 signal to a functional network.

14 2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the server retrieves return data from the
15 functional network and provides the return data to the at least a second communication unit,
16 the at least a second communication unit generating at least one return information signal and
17 providing the at least one return information signal to the wireless signal transfer network,
18 the wireless signal transfer network wirelessly transferring the at least one return information
19 signal to the at least a first communication unit, which generates the at least one display
20 signal for display on the television set.

1 3. The system of Claim 1, further comprising remote data entry and control
2 means, wirelessly coupled to the at least a first communication unit, for permitting a system
3 user to control display of display signals on the television set and enter data corresponding to
4 the display of the display signals.

1 4. The system of Claim 3, wherein the remote data entry and control means
2 comprises an alphanumeric keyboard portion.

1 5. The system of Claim 4, wherein the alphanumeric keyboard portion is in
2 infrared communication with the at least a first communication unit.

1 6. The system of Claim 3, wherein the remote data entry and control means
2 comprises a speaker phone portion.

1 7. The system of Claim 6, wherein the speaker phone portion is in RF
2 communication with the at least a first communication unit.

1 8. The system of Claim 1, wherein the wireless signal transfer network is a
2 satellite network.

1 9. The system of Claim 8, wherein the satellite network includes at least a pair of
2 satellite transceivers and at least one satellite for transferring signals between the pair of
3 transceivers, one and another of the pair of transceivers being operatively coupled to the at
4 least a first communication unit and the at least a second communication unit, respectively.

1 10. The system of Claim 1, wherein the functional network is a wide area
2 information network.

1 11. The system of Claim 10, wherein the wide area network includes a mail
2 server.

1 12. The system of Claim 1, wherein the functional network is a paging network.

1 13. The system of Claim 12, wherein the paging network includes a paging server.

1 14. The system of Claim 12, wherein the paging network includes a plurality of
2 pagers.

1 15. The system of Claim 1, wherein the functional network is an emergency
2 response network.

1 16. The system of Claim 15, wherein the emergency response network includes a
2 server.

1 17. The system of Claim 2, wherein the at least a first communication unit
2 comprises indication means for indicating that the at least one return information signal has
3 been received.

1 18. The system of Claim 17, wherein the indicating means is an LED.

1 19. The system of Claim 1, wherein the at least one display signal generated by
2 the at least a first communication unit includes data to generate at least one menu-driven
3 window on the television set.

1 20. The system of Claim 19, wherein the at least one menu-driven window
2 includes displayable information relating to e-mail messages.

1 21. The system of Claim 20, wherein the at least a first communication unit
2 generates a message string to be included as part of the at least one information signal
3 containing information entered by the user in the e-mail window.

1 22. The system of Claim 21, wherein the functional network is a wide area
2 network having a mail server and further wherein the server coupled to the at least a second
3 communication unit provides the message string to the mail server.

1 23. The system of Claim 19, wherein the at least one menu-driven window
2 includes displayable information relating to paging messages.

1 24. The system of Claim 23, wherein the at least a first communication unit
2 generates a message string to be included as part of the at least one information signal
3 containing information entered by the user in the paging window.

1 25. The system of Claim 24, wherein the functional network is a paging network
2 having a paging server and further wherein the server coupled to the at least a second
3 communication unit provides the message string to the paging server.

1 26. The system of Claim 19, wherein the at least one menu-driven window
2 includes displayable information relating to financial market transactions.

1 27. The system of Claim 26, wherein the at least a first communication unit
2 generates a message string to be included as part of the at least one information signal
3 containing information entered by the user in the financial transaction window.

1 28. The system of Claim 27, wherein the functional network is a wide area
2 network and further wherein the server coupled to the at least a second communication unit
3 provides the message string to the wide area network.

1 29. The system of Claim 19, wherein the at least one menu-driven window
2 includes displayable information relating to emergency messages.

1 30. The system of Claim 29, wherein the at least a first communication unit
2 generates a message string to be included as part of the at least one information signal
3 containing information entered by the user in the emergency message window.

1 31. The system of Claim 30, wherein the functional network is an emergency
2 response network having a emergency response server and further wherein the server coupled
3 to the at least a second communication unit provides the message string to the emergency
4 response server.

1 *DWBZ*) 32. A wireless information signal transfer and interactive television system
2 comprises:
3 at least a first communication unit, operatively coupled to a television set, for
4 generating at least one information signal and for generating at least one display signal for
5 display on the television set;

remote data entry and control means, wirelessly coupled to the at least a first communication unit, for permitting a system user to control display of the at least one display signal on the television set and enter data corresponding to the display of the at least one display signal;

a wireless signal transfer network, operatively coupled to the at least a first communication unit, for wirelessly transferring signals including the at least one information signal;

at least a second communication unit, operatively coupled to the wireless transfer network, for receiving the at least one information signal; and

a server, operatively coupled to the at least a second communication unit, for processing the at least one information signal and providing data included in the information signal to a network;

wherein the server retrieves return data from the network and provides the return data to the at least a second communication unit, the at least a second communication unit generating at least one return information signal and providing the at least one return information signal to the wireless signal transfer network, the wireless signal transfer network wirelessly transferring the at least one return information signal to the at least a first communication unit, which generates the at least one display signal for display on the television set.

33. The system of Claim 32, wherein the at least a first communication unit comprises:

processing means, operatively coupled to the wireless signal transfer network, for sending the at least one information signal and receiving the at least one return information signal;

input controlling means, operatively coupled to the processing means and the remote data entry and control means, for receiving data and control information from the remote data and control means and providing said information to the processing means; and

display signal generating means, operatively coupled to the processing means, for generating the at least one display signal for display on the television set, in response to the at least one return information signal received by the processing means and the data and control information from the remote data and control means.

34. The system of Claim 33, wherein the at least one display signal generated by the display signal generating means is a digital signal and wherein the at least a first communication unit further comprises digital-to-analog conversion means, operatively coupled to the display signal generating means, for converting the digital display signal to analog form for display on the television set.

35. The system of Claim 34, wherein the at least a first communication unit further comprises a signal combiner, operatively coupled between the digital-to-analog conversion means and the television set, for combining the analog display signal with at least another analog signal received from the wireless signal transfer network and providing the combined signals to the television set.

1 Sub B³) 36. A wireless information signal transfer and interactive television system
2 comprises:

at least a first communication unit, operatively coupled to a television set, for generating at least one information signal and for generating at least one display signal for display on the television set;

a remote keyboard device, wirelessly coupled to the at least a first communication unit, for permitting a system user to control display of the at least one display signal on the television set and enter data corresponding to the display of the at least one display signal;

a satellite network, operatively coupled to the at least a first communication unit, for wirelessly transferring signals including the at least one information signal;

at least a second communication unit, operatively coupled to the satellite network, for receiving the at least one information signal; and

a server, operatively coupled to the at least a second communication unit, for processing the at least one information signal and providing data included in the information signal to a network;

wherein the server retrieves return data from the network and provides the return data to the at least a second communication unit, the at least a second communication unit generating at least one return information signal and providing the at least one return information signal to the satellite network, the satellite network wirelessly transferring the at

21 least one return information signal to the at least a first communication unit, which generates
22 the at least one display signal for display on the television set.

1 37. The system of Claim 36, wherein the satellite network includes at least a pair
2 of satellite transceivers and at least one satellite for transferring signals between the pair of
3 transceivers, one and another of the pair of transceivers being operatively coupled to the at
4 least a first communication unit and the at least a second communication unit, respectively.

1 38. The system of Claim 36, wherein the network coupled to the server is a wide
2 area information network.

1 39. The system of Claim 38, wherein the wide area information network is the
2 Internet.

1 40. The system of Claim 36, wherein the network coupled to the server is a
2 paging network.

1 41. The system of Claim 36, wherein the network is an emergency response
2 network.

1 42. The system of Claim 36, wherein the at least a first communication unit
2 comprises indication means for indicating that the at least one return information signal has
3 been received.

1 43. The system of Claim 42, wherein the indicating means is an LED.

1 44. The system of Claim 36, wherein the at least one display signal generated by
2 the at least a first communication unit includes data to generate at least one menu-driven
3 window on the television set.